

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A data updating method for updating data stored in a first memory of an image forming apparatus, comprising:
~~sending electronic mail from an external device to the image forming apparatus to call for updating of the data stored in the memory of the image forming apparatus;~~
downloading updating data from a device on a network based on contents of the electronic mail when ~~the electronic mail from the external device has been received by the image forming apparatus~~ receives the electronic mail that calls for updating of the data stored in the first memory from an external device; and
saving the data, which has been stored in the first memory, in a second memory and
executing updating processing for the data stored in the first memory, based on the downloaded updating data; and
rewriting the data saved in the second memory, which is the unupdated data stored in the first memory, into the first memory when an error occurs in data updating processing.
2. (Original) The data updating method for the image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the electronic mail sent from the external device includes information indicating data to be updated, and information indicating which device on the network holds the updating data.
3. (Original) The data updating method for the image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said executing updating processing includes: writing the updating data once again if the writing of the updating data in the memory fails and a number of times of failure is within a predetermined number; and determining that an error occurs in data updating processing if the number of times of failure reaches said predetermined number.
4. (Original) The data updating method for the image forming apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

causing the image forming apparatus to notify the external device of a result of the data updating processing.

5. (Original) The data updating method for the image forming apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

determining whether or not data updating is necessary based on the contents of the electronic mail when the image forming apparatus has received the electronic mail from the external device, and

wherein the updating data is downloaded from the device on the network based on the contents of the electronic mail when the data updating is determined to be necessary.

6. (Currently Amended) The data updating method for the image forming apparatus according to claim 5, wherein

the electronic mail sent from the external device includes version information on data to be updated; and

said determining whether or not the data updating is necessary includes comparing the version information included in the electronic mail with version information on the data stored in the first memory, and determining whether or not updating is required with respect to the data stored in the first memory.

7. (Original) The data updating method for the image forming apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising:

causing the image forming apparatus to notify the external device that data updating based on the electronic mail is unnecessary, when the data updating is determined to be unnecessary.

8. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus, comprising: which stores data in a memory beforehand and comprises:

a first memory in which data is stored beforehand;

a second memory which temporarily stores data;

a network interface which receives from an external device electronic mail calling for updating of the data stored in the first memory and through which updating data is

downloaded from a device on a network based on contents of the electronic mail in response to the reception of the electronic mail; and

a CPU data updating section which executes updating processing for the data stored in the first memory based on the updating data downloaded by the network interface; and

a processing section which rewrites the data saved in the second memory, which is the unupdated data stored in the first memory, into the first memory when an error occurs in data updating processing executed by the data updating section.

9. (Original) The image forming apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the electronic mail sent from the external device includes information indicating data to be updated, and information indicating which device on the network holds the updating data.

10. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said CPU data updating section writes the updating data once again if the writing of the updating data in the first memory fails and a number of times of failure is within a predetermined number, and determines that an error ~~has occurred~~ occurred in the data updating processing if the number of times of failure reaches said predetermined number.

11. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus according to claim 8, ~~wherein said CPU causes the~~ further comprising a notification section which causes the network interface to notify the external device of a result of the data updating processing.

12. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus according to claim 8, ~~wherein said CPU~~ further comprising a determination section which determines whether or not data updating is necessary based on the contents of the electronic mail when the image forming apparatus has received the electronic mail from the external device, ~~and wherein~~

said network interface enables the updating data to be downloaded from the device on the network based on the contents of the electronic mail when the data updating is determined to be necessary by the determination section.

13. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the electronic mail sent from the external device includes version information on

data to be updated, and said CPU determination section determines whether or not ~~the~~ data updating for the data stored in the first memory is necessary by comparing the version information included in the electronic mail with version information on the data stored in the first memory.

14. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus according to claim 12; ~~wherein said CPU causes~~ further comprising a notification section which causes the network interface to notify the external device that data updating based on the electronic mail is unnecessary, when the data updating is determined to be unnecessary.

15. (Currently Amended) An image forming system comprising: an image forming apparatus which stores data in a first memory thereof beforehand; and an external device capable of exchanging electronic mail with the image forming apparatus,

said external device including a modem which sends electronic mail to the image forming apparatus to call for updating of the data stored in the first memory of the image forming apparatus, and

said image forming apparatus includes:

a second memory which temporarily stores data;

a network interface through which updating data is downloaded from a device on a network based on contents of the electronic mail in response to the reception of that electronic mail; ~~and a CPU~~

a data updating section which executes updating processing for the data stored in the first memory based on the updating data downloaded by the network interface; and

a processing section which rewrites the data saved in the second memory, which is the unupdated data stored in the first memory, into the first memory when an error occurs in data updating processing executed by the data updating section.

16. (Original) The image forming system according to claim 15, wherein the electronic mail sent from the external device includes information indicating data to be updated, and information indicating which device on the network holds the updating data.

17. (Currently Amended) The image forming system according to claim 15, wherein said ~~CPU~~ data updating section writes the updating data once again if the writing of the updating data in the first memory fails and a number of times of failure is within a predetermined number, and determines that an error ~~has occurred~~ occurred in the data updating processing if the number of times of failure reaches said predetermined number.

18. (Currently Amended) The image forming ~~apparatus~~ system according to claim 15, ~~wherein said CPU~~ further comprising a notification section which causes the network interface to notify the external device of a result of the data updating processing.

19. (Currently Amended) The image forming system according to claim 15, ~~wherein said CPU~~ further comprising a determination section which determines whether or not data updating is necessary based on the contents of the electronic mail when the image forming apparatus has received the electronic mail from the external device, ~~and wherein~~ said network interface enables the updating data to be downloaded from the device on the network based on the contents of the electronic mail when the data updating is determined to be necessary by the determination section.

20. (Currently Amended) The image forming system according to claim 19, wherein the electronic mail sent from the external device includes version information on data to be updated, and said ~~CPU~~ determination determines whether or not the data updating for the data stored in the first memory is necessary by comparing the version information included in the electronic mail with version information on the data stored in the first memory.

21. (Currently Amended) The image forming system according to claim 19, ~~wherein said CPU~~ causes further comprising a notification section which causes the network interface to notify the external device that data updating based on the electronic mail is unnecessary, when the data updating is determined to be unnecessary.